

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 SES-02 /078 W
-----062609 101057Z /10

R 090845Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3874
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 13714

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PERP, IN, IR
SUBJECT: FOREIGN OFFICE VIEW OF IRAN

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH POL COUNSELLOR LARGELY FOCUSSED ON
PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN (SEPTELS), MEA JOINT SECRETARY I.P.
SINGH RAISED WHAT HE TERMED CONSIDERABLE INDIAN CONCERN ABOUT
DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN IRAN. SINGH MADE IT CLEAR THAT MEA BELIEVED
INDIA'S INTEREST LAY IN A STRONG AND STABLE IRAN LED BY THE
SHAH. HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE DIVIDED OPPOSITION HAD ANY
CHANCE OF ASSURING SUCH STABILITY. HE IMPLIED THAT INDIA FOUND
PARTICULARLY DISTRESSING THE RISE OF ISLAMIC-ORIENTED POLITICAL
FORCES IN IRAN.

2. SINGH SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT THE SHAH WOULD BE ABLE TO
WEATHER THE STORM AND THAT HE WOULD PERSIST WITH REFORMS.
HE FELT THAT THE SHAH, WHO IN HIS VIEW WAS SMARTER AND MORE
DEXTEROUS THAN HIS OPPONENTS, WOULD EMERGE AS A "BALANCING WHEEL".
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BETWEEN THE IRANIAN LEFT AND RIGHT IN A MORE DEMOCRATIC SETUP. HE
MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES THAT HE FELT THAT THE IDEA OF
PRESERVING THE MONARCHY AS AN INSTITUTION AFTER HIS OWN DEATH
WAS A KEY ELEMENT IN THE SHAH'S THINKING.

3. FOR TEHRAN: FOR EMBASSY'S OWN BACKGROUND AS WELL AS
FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIANS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF

THERAN COULD ADD US AS INFO ADDRESSEE TO ITS MORE IMPORTANT
MESSAGES ON THE EVOLVING DOMESTIC POLITICAL SCENE IN IRAN
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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